

Message Text

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP(KISSINGER HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SPECIAL SUMMARY NUMBER 2: TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY

1. NEW LEBANESE CABINET REPORTEDLY BEING FORMED

CAIRO MENA ANNOUNCED MAY 27 THAT RASHID KARAME HAD BEEN ASKED TO FORM THE NEW LEBANESE CABINET. EMBASSY BEIRUT REPORTS THAT A KARAME CABINET IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPOSED PRIMARILY OF NON-PARLIAMENTARIAN FIGURES AND WOULD EXCLUDE BOTH PHALANGIST AND LEFTIST REPRESENTATIVES, A MOVE LIKELY TO CALM THE OVERHEATED ATMOSPHERE AND IMPROVE LOCAL SECURITY CONDITIONS.

BEIRUT WAS GENERALLY QUIET MAY 27 WITH SOME STREET BARRICADES BEING REMOVED AND SMALL NUMBERS OF LOCAL CITIZENRY BEGINNING TO EMERGE FROM THEIR HOMES. WITH AN ESTIMATED 13 KILLED DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS, THE OVERALL FIGURE FOR DEATHS INCURRED SINCE MAY 20 ROSE TO APPROXIMATELY 100.

2. NEW PRESIDENT NAMED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA
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CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE NAMED GUSTAV HUSAK MAY 27 TO SUCCEED INCUMBENT PRESIDENT SVOBODA, WHO HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY ILL FOR MORE THAN A YEAR. THE FEDERAL ASSEMBLY WILL TAKE FORMAL ACTION ON MAY 28. RUMORS

ABOUND AS TO WHETHER HUSAK IN BECOMING PRESIDENT IS BEING KICKED UPSTAIRS OR IS CONSOLIDATING HIS POWER POSITION BY HOLDING BOTH TOP JOBS IN PARTY AND GOVERNMENT.

EMBASSY COMMENT: MANY OBSERVERS IN PRAGUE ARE LESS SURE THAN THEY WERE A FEW MONTHS AGO THAT HUSAK WILL REMAIN IN CLEAR AND UNCONTESTED CONTROL FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

3. MOROCCAN REACTION TO SPANISH ANNOUNCEMENT ON SAHARA

EMBASSY RABAT REPORTS THE GOM REACTED STRONGLY TO THE SPANISH POLICY STATEMENT INDICATING DETERMINATION TO SPEED DECOLONIZATION OF THE SAHARA. THE GOM NOTED THE EQUIVOCAL SITUATION CREATED BY THE SPANISH ANNOUNCEMENT AND CONCLUDED THAT IT WILL ASSUME FULLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY ITS HISTORIC AND LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES. MOROCCAN OFFICIALS;

--REMARKED THAT THE SPANISH INITIATIVES WERE A MANUEVER AND SHOWED SUSPICION OF COLLUSION WITH THE ALGERIANS;

--STRONGLY PREFER A MORE LEISURELY EVOLUTION OF THE SITUATION VIA THE ICJ AND WILL STRIVE TO SLOW THINGS DOWN.

4. INDONESIA'S MALIK ON ROLE OF ASEAN

MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB, FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK OUTLINED INDONESIA'S BLUEPRINT FOR ASEAN POLICY IN THE FUTURE, SAYING;

--REGIONAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED AMONG ASEAN NATIONS, EVENTUALLY ELIMINATING THE NEED FOR US PHYSICAL PRESENCE.

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--THE US ROLE IN ASSURING DETERRENCE AGAINST THE USSR AND PRC WOULD CONTINUE TO BE OF IMPORTANCE.

--THE GOI IS CONCERNED OVER THE GENERAL THAI WEAKNESS AND THE THREAT OF SEPARATISM IN EAST MALAYSIA.

--ASEAN NEEDS TIME TO STRENGTHEN ITS LINE AROUND THE BORDERS OF INDOCHINA AND ITS STATEMENT EXTENDING FRIENDSHIP SHOULD BE READ IN THAT CONTEXT.

EMBASSY COMMENT: GOI MILITARY LEADERSHIP IS STILL REVIEWING POST INDOCHINA POLICY, AND MALIK'S CALL FOR WITHDRAWAL OF US-PHILIPPINE BASES DOES NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT A GOI CONCLUSION.

5. MARCOS ACKNOWLEDGES NECESSITY OF A US MILITARY
PRESENCE

AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN REPORTS THAT DURING ADMIRAL GAYLER'S
MAY 25 VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES, MARCOS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT
PHILIPPINE SECURITY DEPENDED OF US NAVAL AND AIR
POWER. HOWEVER, CALLING FOR THE US BASES TO BE MADE TRULY
PHILIPPINE, HE:

--ASSERTED THAT COMMUNIST VICTORIES IN INDOCHINA HAVE
CAUSED A WAVE OF ANTAGONISM TOWARD ALIEN, PARTICULARLY
WESTERN, INVOLVEMENT IN ASIAN AFFAIRS; AND

--SAID HE WISHED TO NEUTRALIZE THESE ATTITUDES BEFORE THEY
FORCE THE US PRESENCE OUT.

MARCOS STRESSED THAT HE WAS NOT SEEKING TO FIND A HURRIED
SOLUTION, OR "PANIC" THE US.

6. MARCOS TO VISIT CHINA

MARCOS HAS CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY MANILA THAT HE WILL
VISIT CHINA JUNE 7-11. HE WILL BE WELCOMED BY TENG
HSAIO-PING AND IS SCHEDULED TO CALL ON MAO AND CHOU. INGERSOLL

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